the news item which appeared in Illustrated Weekly of 19th July, 1987, and Economic and Political Weekly of 20th June, 1987 carrying analysis of real reasons for scarcity of milk in the capital and elsewhere and if so, whether National Dairy Development Board/Indian Dairy Corporation are proposed to be revamped without any further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : Government has seen the news item titled "Body-Blow" in the Illustrated Weekly of India of 19th July, 1987 and the Operation Flood: "EEC Report vindicates critics" in the Economfc and Political Weekly of 20th June, 1987. Both the articles mainly refer to the report of the Consultants of a Joint Mission appointed by the European Economic Community. (EEC) and the World Bank who had visited India in July-August, 1986.

Since the draft reports indicated that the views of the Consultants did not necessarily represent any official view of the financing institution, the Government did not consider it appropriate to take any action in the matter. Therefore, the question of revamping National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)/Indian Dairy Corporation (IDC) on account of the Report of the Consultants of the Joint Mission does not arise. However, a decision has separately been taken to undertake a legislation for establishment of a Statutory Corporation to take the place of NDDB and IDC. This would facilitate institutionalising of the close cooperation between the two organisations and enable more effective implementation of the Operation Flood III Programme.

Cost of production and procurement price of Food-grains

3221. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state what was the cost of production of major foodgrains in the country during 1970, 1980 and 1986-87 stating the percentage of increase|decrease separately and the percentage of increas in the procurement prices of foodgrains during these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): The estimates of cost of production of major foodgrains available for different states pertain to different years (the latest estimates are available for 1984-85). The enclosed annexure gives the cost of production for different years, together with the variations in cost of production and procurement/support prices (*see* Appendix CXLIII Annexure No. 124)

Index number of Agicultureal inputs

3222. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state what were the index numbers of agricultural inputs such as fertilizers, HSD, LSD, electricity, tractors, agricultural 'Phowrah', cement, iron, insecticides etc., as in 1970, 1980, 1986 and 1987 (latest figures) stating the percentage of increase/decrease during these years in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERAION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): The All India Index number of wholesale prices (base 1970-71—100) of agricultural inputs for the years 1970-71, 1980, 1986 and 1987 are given below. Figures in brackets indicate the percentage increase decrease in the index numbers of wholesale prices over the preceding year.